

Information For Clients:



## **Suggested Diet for Large Intestine Motility Disorders**

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This diet has been constructed by Dr Celia Marr MRCVS and others at the Royal Veterinary College, London in the light of their research into motility disorders of the hind gut.

It is suggested there are two liquid feeds twice daily with as much access to grass as possible at other times. Research has shown that feeding poor quality roughage is one of the factors resulting in conditions such as impactions secondary to motility disorders. For this reason it is recommended to avoid coarse/poor quality hay, straw or other highly fibrous feeds (e.g. chopped straw mixes/chaffs). Haylage is preferable to hay.

Horses generally learn to eat the liquid feed more quickly over a period of time. There may be slightly more urine production resulting in a wetter stable.

### **Recipe:**

1. soak 4 lb unmollassed sugar beet overnight in water
2. add 6 times the volume of water to the above
3. 1 hour before feeding add the following to half of the above:
  - 2 lb Alfalfa (Dengie AlfaA or other)
  - 2 lb medium protein complete nuts (e.g. Dodson & Horrell Pasture Nuts)
  - + 1 scoop probiotic powder (e.g. Yeasacc)

These are approximate amounts for a 600Kg horse.

The above is only a guide. The important fact seems to be the large amount of water fed necessitating high water intake with the feed.

For more information please telephone the surgery.

